

Additional Information for NEH-AHRC Joint Funding Initiative: Bridging Cultures: Using Humanities Scholarship to Study Health and Well-Being in the United Kingdom and the United States

Background

In 2011 a multidisciplinary group of researchers from the United States and the United Kingdom came together in two workshops to discuss shared interests in areas connected to the humanities, the arts, and the sciences. One topic of particular interest at these workshops was the role of culture and cultural difference in shaping perceptions of human health and well-being. The workshops sought to explore how and why to pursue research on health that encompasses the sciences, arts, and humanities; to identify potential research topics; and to consider potential follow-up activities and shared approaches to funding.

Joint U.S.-UK grant opportunity

As a follow-up to these workshops, the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) in the United States and the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) in the United Kingdom are working together to offer support for projects that use the disciplines of the humanities (such as history, literature, philosophy, jurisprudence, comparative religion, and art history) to conduct original research exploring some aspect of health and/or well-being. Collaboration between U.S. and UK partners is a key requirement for this grant category. The goals of this request for proposals are to advance the contributions of humanities research to the understanding of health and well-being, and to promote stronger bilateral cooperation in that field.

AHRC is particularly looking for projects which are relevant to its [Science in Culture](#) theme. Although other projects are welcome, NEH particularly encourages projects relating to its *Bridging Cultures* initiative. That initiative engages the power of the humanities to promote understanding and mutual respect for people with diverse histories, cultures, and perspectives within the United States and abroad.

Eligibility

Projects must include a U.S. and a UK project director, each of whom must be affiliated with an institution eligible to receive support from NEH and AHRC respectively, so that funds may be distributed according to respective national laws and funding guidelines.

U.S. partner eligibility

Any U.S. nonprofit organization with IRS tax-exempt status is eligible, as are state and local governmental agencies and federally recognized Indian tribal governments. Individuals are not eligible to apply.

NEH generally does not award grants to other federal entities or to applicants whose projects are so closely intertwined with a federal entity that the project takes on characteristics of the federal entity's own authorized activities. This does not preclude applicants from using grant funds from, or sites and materials controlled by, other federal entities in their projects.

UK partner eligibility

In order to act as the project director for the UK, applicants must meet the standard AHRC eligibility criteria. Please see the AHRC's [Research Funding Guide](#) (PDF) for more information.

Funding contributions

If an application is successful, the NEH grant will support costs for U.S. team members and associated activities. Costs for UK team members and associated activities will be covered by AHRC. Only the U.S. costs should be included in the budget of the application submitted to NEH.

Specific budget information for UK partners

UK partners should see Section 3 of the AHRC's [Research Funding Guide](#) (PDF) for more information about costs.

The UK project director should create a standard grants proposal through the Je-S system. Please see Section 4 of the AHRC's [Research Funding Guide](#) (PDF) for guidance on using the Je-S system.

The proposal form should not be submitted but should be used to calculate the UK costs. Please complete the budget section of the form with all costs associated with the UK team members and activities.

The UK project director should create a PDF copy of the unsubmitted proposal form and e-mail it to the following address: j.clark@ahrc.ac.uk.

If successful, the UK project director should attach a copy of the NEH proposal to the Je-S form previously created and submit it to AHRC to enable the grant to be awarded. Payment of the UK costs will be made directly from AHRC to the UK project director's institution.

Application procedures

The U.S. and UK partners will collaborate to write a single application package, and proposals submitted to NEH should describe the full project and indicate which tasks each partner will perform. The U.S. partner will submit the package to NEH via Grants.gov. (See [the full guidelines for the Collaborative Research program](#) (PDF).) Applicants to NEH should indicate (in the statement of significance and impact, and again at the start of the narrative) that they are responding to the special opportunity for **NEH-AHRC joint funding for projects on humanities and health.**

Prospective applicants are urged to discuss their ideas with the NEH Collaborative Research program staff before proceeding to develop applications. Inquiries may be addressed to collaborative@neh.gov. The application deadline is December 6, 2012. Applicants should follow the specific instructions for proposals in the Collaborative Research guidelines and, in particular, those in section IV – Application and Submission Information.

Evaluation

For information about review of applications and criteria for evaluation, see section V of the Collaborative Research program guidelines.